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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Volkspolizei School in Pirna

EVALUATION **25X1X** PLACE OBTAINED **25X1C**

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED **25X1C** DATE PREPARED 11 July 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE **25X1X**

1. The Pirna (N 51/F 38) VP school was quartered in Schloss Sonnenstein at 4 Kunersdorferstrasse, Pirna. The school, with a strength of about 100 officers and 1,100 police was organized into a headquarters, eight signal companies, two engineer companies, and one training company. The training company was also a signal company made up of highly qualified personnel from VP Bereitschaften throughout the Soviet Zone of Germany. This company detached personnel to fill vacancies in other signal companies.
2. Inspekteur Welz, (fnu), was school commandant. He is about 45 years old and of medium height. Inspekteur Eberhardt, (fnu) about 45 years old, small, is PK-Leiter. Inspekteur Boykott, (fnu), a Soviet, is about 39 years old and is an instructor. Kommandeur Aschenbach, (fnu) Einsatzleiter or operations officer is about 46 years old, tall and square-shouldered. Kommandeur Roellich, (fnu), director of signal training, is about 50 years old, tall and slim and Polizeirat Hoffmann, (fnu), about 43 years old, 172 cm tall is director of engineer training. One chief instructor and three instructors were available for indoctrination in each of the subjects taught at the school.
3. The school had four to six heavy machine guns, model 42, four to six light machine guns, model 34, 400 carbines, model 98 K, 200 pistols, model 08, and an unidentified number of submachine guns, model 42. Mortars were supposed to be issued to the school.
4. The school signal equipment consisted of: field telephones, model 33, 10 portable radio sets, type Berta, 10 Caesar portable radio sets, 10 Dora portable radio sets; 2 field teletypewriters; 2 teletype-writers; 2 morse printers; one class-room with about 20 built-in teletype machines which recorded on sheets and tape, ten switchboards with 10 drops each; ten switchboards with 20 drops each; several switchboards with 100 and 200 drops each; and other equipment pertaining to signal training, such as pack reels, wire pikes, etc. The signal material used for training was delivered by the Volkseigener Betrieb (National Enterprise) (VEB) Elektrobau, Dargendorf.

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2
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5. Approximately 12 medium pontoons, about 10 pneumatic rafts, and material for the construction of bridges and wire obstacles were included in the engineer equipment at the school.
6. Students received instruction in the operation of telephones and radio sets; engineer and infantry training; political indoctrination; tactics; firing of weapons; map reading and orientation; first aid; athletics; geography; Russian and German languages and arithmetic. Although scheduled to end on 15 February 1950, the course was extended to 15 May 1950 because the training did not measure up to the required standard. The final examinations, which were held at the time of observation, revealed many shortcomings which required the course to be further prolonged.
7. About 80 percent of the trainees were to receive officer commissions after graduation. They would be employed in VP service or as supervisors at Soviet Zone post offices.
8. About 98 percent of the trainees were members of the school's FDJ group with Polizeimeister Jaehnel, (fnu), as chairman. About 50 percent of the trainees were members of the school's SED group, presided over by Oberpolizeirat Tschiminsky, (fnu).

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